

# Local Services

## PART 1: KEY FINDINGS

### 1. Tax Base Growth

Although the tax base in Anaconda – Deer Lodge County (ADLC) has increased 15% over the last few years, it is important to consider the underlying trends prompting this growth. Often, growth in residential tax base may have a negative fiscal impact if the demands for services in new residential areas exceed the tax revenue generated from the development. The taxable value of commercial and industrial properties, however, generally results in a positive fiscal impact for the community. The fiscal impact can vary widely for all types of development depending on the infrastructure, cost of construction, new employment, school enrollment and local governmental budget. These factors should be evaluated in determining the impact of new development.

### 2. Wildland Urban Interface

Due to the factors of climate change, past forestry practices, and recent development trends, the risk of wildfire has increased across the intermountain west. As more development occurs in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), there is a higher risk to life and property from wildfires. The cost of fighting fires in the WUI to protect structures is high and significantly strains local and state budgets for firefighting. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) contains recommendations for vegetation management, fire fighting coordination, and fuel reduction. Additionally, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation recommends standards for development in the WUI to reduce fire risks and improve ability to combat fires in these areas.

### 3. Declining School Enrollments

School enrollment in the county has steadily declined over the last 20 years and this trend is expected to continue. This has resulted in a need to close schools and in several aging surplus structures that create a financial strain. Additionally, State aid is calculated based on enrollment levels and with fewer students, there is less state funding. This further strains the schools' financial resources.

### 4. Intergovernmental Cooperation

With increasing demands and limited resources, local governments are partnering to address common concerns. The Hazard Mitigation Plan contains recommendations for coordination among agencies to address emergency or disaster situations. Law enforcement routinely partners with social service agencies, schools, and neighborhoods to reduce crime. There is often a coordinated response between code enforcement and environmental health officials to help address nuisance violations. State and local governments are more frequently entering into intergovernmental agreements to provide services.

### 5. Healthy Cities

Nationally, more health care resources are being directed to treat chronic diseases that result from lifestyle choices. More communities are recognizing that land use decisions often have public health implications. Many principles of good planning also promote healthy lifestyles with a variety of benefits. Organizations and agencies that promote fitness and quality of life issues are increasingly raising awareness about the way the built environment can promote healthy communities.

## PART 2: EXISTING CONDITIONS

### 1. City-County Government

#### A. Organization

Anaconda – Deer Lodge County (ADLC) is one of two consolidated city-county local governments in Montana. The core of the county's population is located in the original townsite of Anaconda, established in 1883 by one of the famous Montana copper barons, Marcus Daly. Originally, the town of Anaconda was incorporated as a municipality, but in 1977, the residents of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County elected to be governed under a Charter form of consolidated city-county government. The boundaries of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County are the same as those for Deer Lodge County as described in the laws of Montana.

The legislative and policy making body of the consolidated government is the Board of Commissioners. The Commission is composed of five members, with each Commissioner representing a designated district. Commissioners serve staggered, four-year terms with at least two Commissioners elected every two years. ADLC elections are non-partisan, and the office of Commissioner is part-time.

The ADLC's Chief Executive is elected by a plurality vote on a non-partisan ballot for a four-year term. The Chief Executive serves the consolidated government as the chief administrative officer. This position directs and supervises the departments and agencies as established under the Charter. (See Organization Chart) There are 87 full-time employees in the County (late 2009).

#### B. Finances

The primary source of revenue to pay for day-to-day operations for local governments is property taxes. In Anaconda-Deer Lodge County the property valuation increased by 16% from the 04-05 Fiscal year to the 07-08 Fiscal Year while the County Tax Levy increased by 13% during the same time period. Property valuations for the Anaconda urban area increased at a lesser rate of 6% during the three year period from 2004 to 2007 while the property tax levy increased by 15%. Compared to surrounding counties, ADLC had a lower growth in taxable values than Butte-Silverbow County (24% increase) but it had a higher growth than Powell or Beaverhead counties (8% increase). The growth in taxable value was comparable to the statewide average.

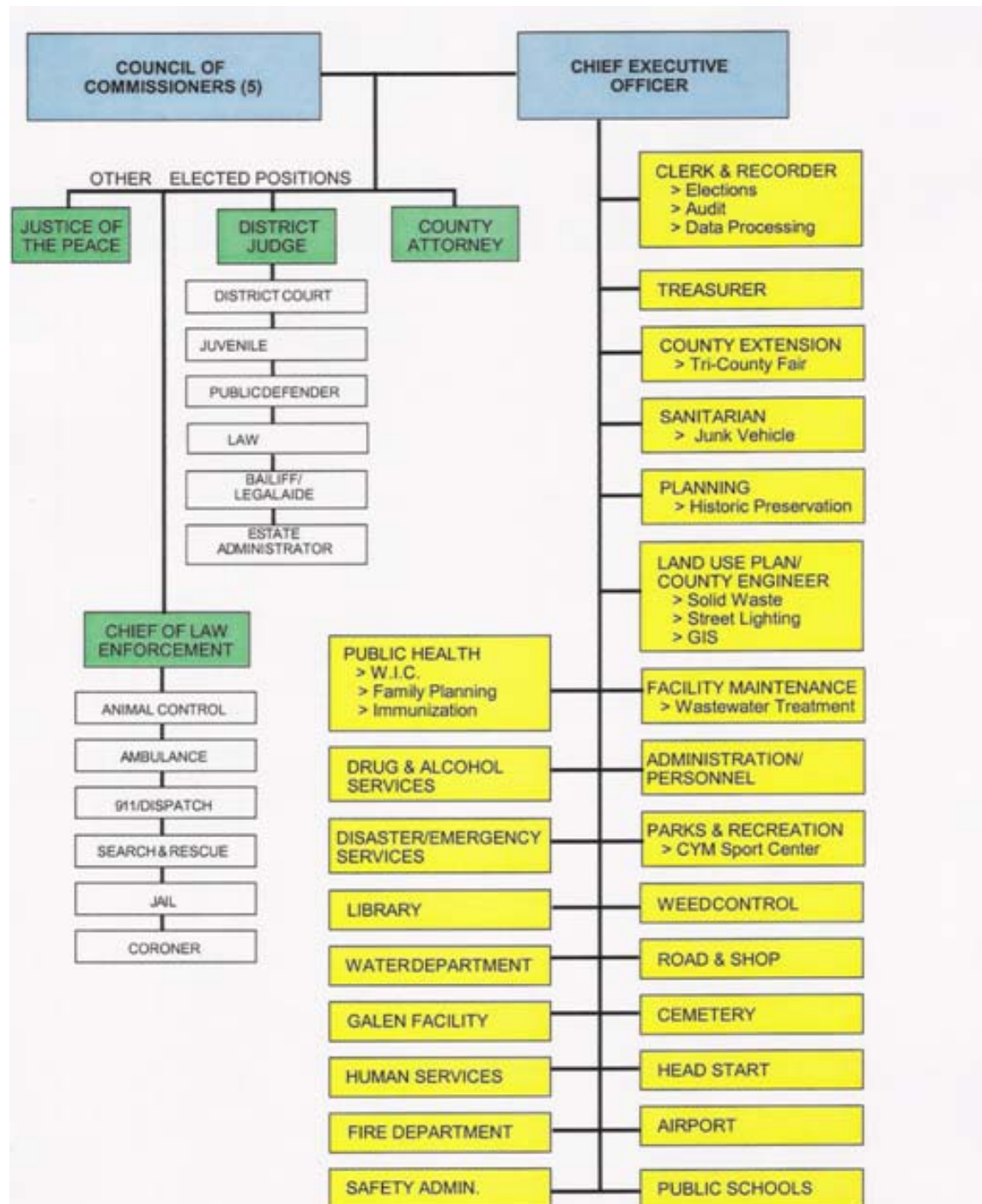
*Table 1: Taxable Valuation and General Fund Levy*

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>04-05</b>	<b>07-08</b>	<b>% Change</b>
County Taxable Valuation	\$9,488,865	\$11,012,050	16%
County Tax Levy	\$251.52	\$284.63	13%
Anaconda Taxable Valuation	\$4,049,739	\$4,280,760	6%
Anaconda Tax Levy	\$125.93	\$145.63	16%

*Source: Montana Tax Foundation, "Property Tax Mill Levies"*

Growth in taxable values vary widely from county to county and generally reflects trends in new residential and commercial development. The Montana Department of Revenue reappraises property on a six year cycle with reappraisals occurring in 2008 and new property assessments implemented in 2009. Statewide, it is anticipated that the reappraisals will result in an increase in taxable values.

Figure 1: Anaconda Deer Lodge County Organization Chart



## 2. Fire Protection

Various fire departments in the county provide fire protection for structures within their own district boundaries. Outside of these districts, some areas in the county are without structure fire protection. Map 1 indicates the service area for the districts that are located within Anaconda-Deer Lodge County. There are mutual aid agreements among all fire districts. Additionally, some Fire Districts in Beaverhead County will respond to fires in certain areas of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County.

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is an independent organization that serves insurance companies, fire departments, and others by setting uniform standards for the assessment of fire risk. ISO collects information about fire-protection efforts in the community and assigns a number from 1 to 10 to each district. Class 1 represents exemplary fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria. Insurance companies use ISO's ratings to calculate premiums. In general, fire insurance costs are substantially lower than in a community with a good ISO rating. ISO ratings are based on the following:

- Fire alarm and communications systems: Includes telephone systems, telephone lines, staffing, and dispatching systems
- Fire department: Includes equipment, staffing, training, and geographic distribution of fire companies
- Water supply system: Includes condition and maintenance of hydrants, and a careful evaluation of the amount of available water compared with the amount needed to suppress fires

Rural areas without full-time staff and/or a central water system with hydrants generally have low ISO ratings. Additionally, according to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, there is an on-going need to upgrade and/or replace equipment. Excessively old engines and tankers often have outdated or hard to find parts. Volunteer recruitment and training are also on-going needs. The following table shows a list of fire districts in the County.

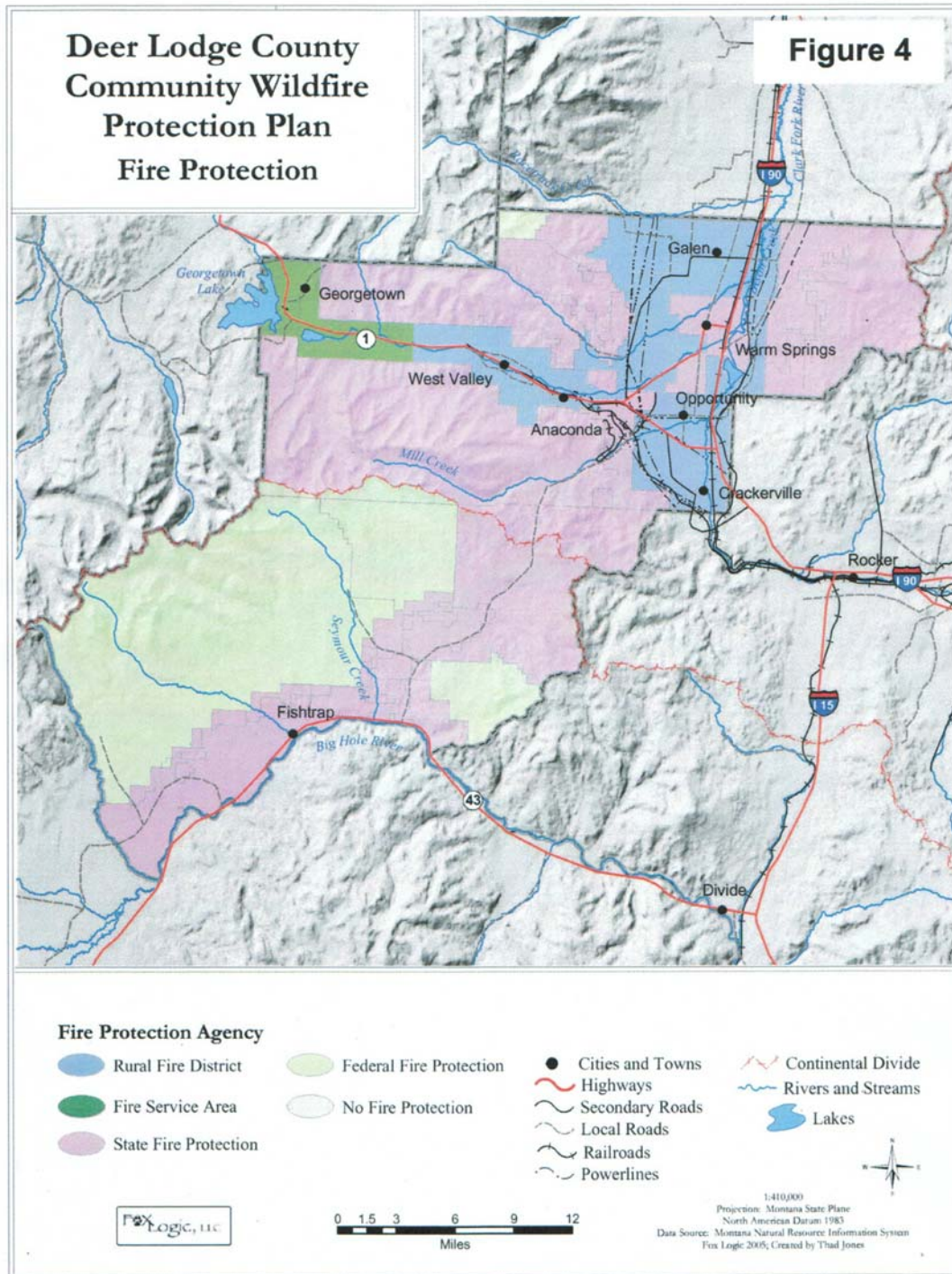
*Table 2 : Fire Departments in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County*

Fire Department	General Information	ISO Rating
Anaconda Fire Department	The station is located on Commercial Street. Immediate aid agreement for structure fires with West Valley RFD.	6
West Valley Rural Fire Department (RFD)	Immediate aid agreement for structure fires with Anaconda Fire Department.	8-9
Opportunity Rural Fire Department	No central water system	8 -9
Georgetown Lake Fire Service Area	A fee for structure fire protection is assessed.	9
Lost Creek/Antelope Gulch RFD	Wildland fire capacity in addition to structure fires	9
Racetrack Valley RFD	Responds to emergencies in both Deer Lodge and Powell County	--
Warm Springs Volunteer Fire Co.	State-owned. Financially supported by Montana State Hospital	--

*Source: ADLC Capital Improvement Plan*



Maps 1: Fire Protection Service Areas



### 3. Wildland-Urban Interface

#### A. Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) - Defined

Developed land at the edge of, or within, forests and grassland is referred to as the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). According to the “Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Community Wildfire Protection Plan” (CWPP), the WUI consists of “...the line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels”. This unique zone is an area that has the potential to be at an increased risk to wildfire.

*Figure 2: Home in Wildland-Urban Interface*

Characteristics that make the WUI an attractive area in which to live also make fire fighting and emergency responses dangerous, difficult, and very expensive. Additionally, many areas have a buildup of vegetation, resulting from decades of fire suppression. Combine this factor with recent drought patterns and the result is an increased risk of catastrophic wildfire in many areas of the WUI. Due to the tremendous risk to life, property, and infrastructure in WUI communities, as well as the dangerous and complicated situations firefighters face, many communities have undertaken wildfire protection and planning efforts.



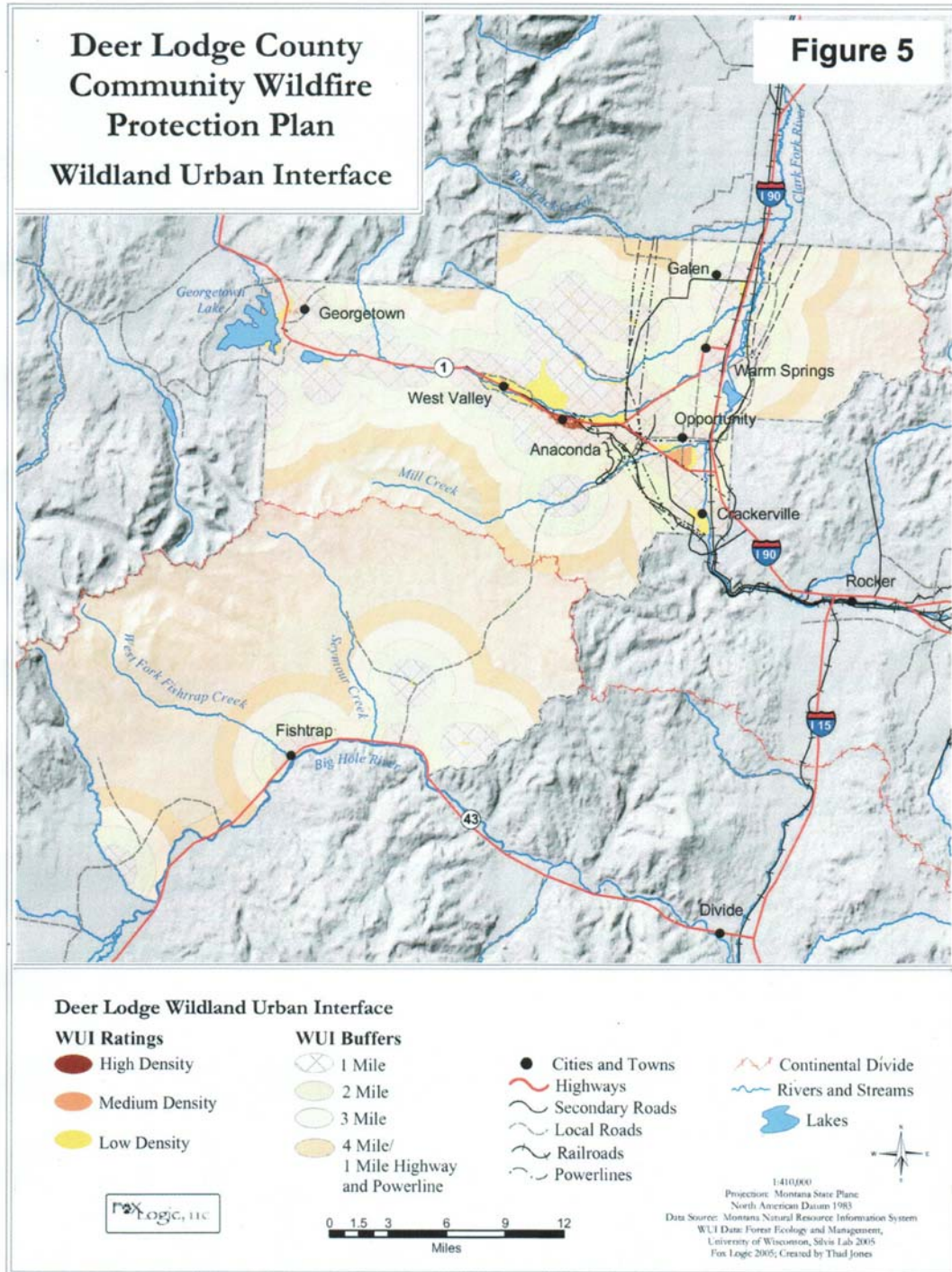
In order to map the WUI, the CWPP identifies characteristics based on vegetation and housing density. Denser areas of vegetation with residential densities of 1.40 acres are generally classified as “intermix” areas. Areas of higher residential densities are classified as “interface” areas. Through mapping based on these criteria, the CWPP has identified 2,209 acres of WUI interface and 5,969 acres of WUI intermix for a total of 8,178 WUI acres in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County

The CWPP extends the WUI protection area, or buffer, to extend four miles out from the edge of the defined WUI. This protection area provides a distance away from values at-risk within the WUI in the event of extreme wildfire behavior. The buffer is designed to better ensure adequate emergency protection in the event of a catastrophic crown fire. (See Map 2)

Crown fires are supported mainly by foliage (fuels) of the upper tree canopies in densely forested areas. Crown fires may promote spot fire ignition caused by convection-carried firebrands ahead of the main fire front making a fire much more difficult to contain, confine, and control. Not all wildland fires “crown,” but when the condition occurs it is one of the fastest spreading and most intense types of fire, posing an especially high risk to human life and property in the WUI. The CWPP contains documentation on the methodology that was used to calculate the appropriate buffer and further divides the buffer area into 1-mile priority protection zones.



Map 2: Wildland Urban Interface and Buffer zones



### B. Types of Wildfire in ADLC

The CWPP classifies wildfire risks by type of fire behavior fuel models. The five most common types of fire and fuels found in the county are listed below.

*Table 3: Fire Behavior by Fuel Type*

<b>Fuel</b>	<b>Fire Behavior</b>
Perennial grasslands, annual grasslands, savannahs, grass-tundra, grass-shrub with < 1/3 shrub or timber (Lowest Priority in ADLC)	Rapidly Moving
Shrub, pine with < 2/3 shrub or timber cover	Moderate spread in herbaceous with added intensity from litter/wood and production of firebrands
Moist or cool shrub types (alder), forest shrub, regeneration shrub fields after fire or harvest	Typically slow moving with low intensities. Can move rapidly with high intensity with low fuel moistures and hot/dry/windy conditions
Closed-canopy short-needle conifer types, closed-canopy	Typically slow moving with low intensities. Can move rapidly with high intensity with low fuel moistures and hot/dry/windy conditions
Any forest type with >3" dead, downed woody fuels (Highest Priority in ADLC)	High fire intensity with low fuel-moisture and fast moving with wind

*Source: Anaconda-Deer Lodge County – Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2005*

### C. WUI Fire Fighting Resources

On federal lands, the governing agency is responsible for fire protection, while all state and private forested lands are the responsibility of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation- Division of Forestry as authorized by state law. To protect all Montana's forested lands in an efficient manner, cooperative agreements have been signed between recognized federal fire protection agencies and the state. At the present time, cooperative agreements are in place between the State and the USFS and the State and the BLM. The State also coordinates with volunteer fire departments to provide for wildland fire protection in the County. Wildfire protection agreements now provide for mutual aid among all capable response departments and agencies for the County and adjacent counties.

### D. Development Standards in the WUI

The Development Permit System (DPS) requires wildfire prevention plans and mitigation in the Georgetown Lake Development District. The subdivision regulations also contain special requirements for areas that are defined as high fire areas as determined by the US Forest Service and Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC). Since the adoption of these regulations, the County completed a "Community Wildfire Protection Plan" that further refines the definition of WUI interface and relies on new definitions and terminology than what has been referenced in the DPS. The DPS will be updated following adoption of this Growth Policy.

With the increasing frequency of wildfires, encroachment of residential areas in the WUI, and the high cost of protecting structures, in 2007 the State Legislature amended Montana Code Annotated section 76-13-104(8)) to require that the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) adopt administrative rules that address development within the wildland/urban interface (WUI). This includes, but is not limited to, best practices for development within the WUI and criteria for providing



grant and loan assistance to local government entities to encourage them to adopt those practices. In 2009, to meet this requirement, the DNRC has developed draft guidelines that are available on its web site (<http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/forestry/Fire/default.asp>). These guidelines include recommendations for subdivision and zoning regulations that address minimum standards for site development, water supply, fuel breaks, access, streets/roads and vegetation management.

#### E. Ingress-Egress Issues in the WUI

The following excerpt from the “Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Community Wildfire Protection Plan” describes issues with ingress-egress in the WUI.

“Access to and from populated areas of the County is important for emergency response for firefighters and for residents during a catastrophic fire event. Firefighters need trouble-free access to and from subdivisions so that they may provide the most effective response for structure and life protection. Residents also need the opportunity to retreat from WUI areas in the face of wildfire.

Many populated areas throughout western Montana, including Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, have subdivisions with only one route of egress/ingress, roads of inadequate width, bridges of limited weight-bearing capacities, and high fire fuel loads within close proximity to the roadway. These are just some of the many situations that may compromise the protection and evacuation of WUI areas.

Nearly all of Anaconda-Deer Lodge County's existing WUI subdivision access roads have at least one egress/ingress risk element listed above in need of improvement. Many have multiple problems. Many subdivision roads were originally established for resource extraction purposes and now would greatly benefit from multiple egress/ingress risk mitigation improvements to allow safe access and escape for a growing number of residences using the roads for residential access.

Though there are many roads in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County that may be compromised in the event of wildfire, one of significant importance, in an area of elevated risk is MT Highway 1 northwest of Anaconda. This highway is of significant importance as is a primary access route to Anaconda from the Georgetown Lake area. This route is also provides an important egress/ingress alternative for adjacent Granite County residents.”

#### F. Other Hazards Associated with Wildfires

In addition to structure prevention, another concern with wildfires is erosion and flooding due to run-off. This phenomenon is known as “Hydrophobic soil condition.” This is a process of the fire which makes the soil repel water and prevents it from seeping in as it normally would. Severely burned areas on very steep slopes in the mid to upper elevations of canyons and drainages may have little vegetation or duff. There may also be exposed erodible soils and rocks, water repellent soils and large drainage areas covered with ash and debris points. This creates the potential for floods when moderate to heavy rains fall in those canyons and drainage basins. Moderate rains may move large volumes of the ash cover from much of the fire area. This initial flush can fill streams and rivers with ash and debris, impacting municipal water supplies as well as domestic water supplies for subdivisions and private property owners (<http://www.laplataoem.org/Mud/Mud.htm>)

## 4. Emergency Services

Emergency services throughout the County are coordinated through the Department of Emergency Services (DES) office located in the courthouse annex. The duties of this office are to assist fire, law enforcement, EMS and other county department agencies during local or national disasters. In the event of a disaster, the Department also obtains resources as well as helps with evacuation in order to preserve life and property. (Disaster and Emergency Services, Phone: 406.563.5571)

In order to receive Federal disaster mitigation funds, counties are required to have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The County adopted such a “Hazard Mitigation Plan” in 2005 and is scheduled to update the plan in 2010.

The Disaster Mitigation Act is intended to facilitate cooperation between state and local authorities and to encourage coordinated efforts between jurisdictions. The Act encourages and rewards local and state pre-disaster planning and promotes sustainability as a strategy for disaster resistance. In the past, federal legislation has provided funding for disaster relief, recovery, and hazard mitigation planning. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 is the latest legislation. It reinforces the importance of mitigation planning and emphasizes planning for disasters before they occur.

The Disaster Mitigation Act 2000 (DMA 2000) sets policies for “disaster mitigation plans”—plans designed to avoid disasters such as fires, earthquakes, floods and other natural and man-made disasters. DMA 2000 requires four elements in these plans:

1. A planning process.
2. An assessment of risks.
3. A mitigation strategy (action plan).
4. A plan maintenance and updating process

According to the ADLC “Hazard Mitigation Plan”, the county is exposed to a variety of hazards. The Plan identifies these hazards through public input, review of the history of past events, GIS mapping, and research of the literature on the subject. Potential hazards identified in ADLC include:

- Avalanche
- Aviation
- Communicable Disease and Bio-terrorism
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Flooding – Dam Failure
- Flooding – Riverine and Flash Flooding
- Hazardous Materials
- Landslide and Ground/Soil Failure (Subsidence)
- Terrorism and Civil Disorders (Small scale incidents)
- Utility and Communications Outage

## 5. Law Enforcement

The Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Department of Law Enforcement is located at 800 S. Oak Street. The Department of Law Enforcement serves the entire county and consists of three divisions: Law Enforcement, Detention, and 911 Dispatch.

The Law Enforcement Division has fifteen full-time and one part-time sworn officers. The Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Law Enforcement Office is responsible for the safety of the residents as well as enforcing laws and ordinances. The department provides police and patrol protection throughout the county. Through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service, the Department provides law enforcement and patrol services for the Georgetown Lake, Anaconda Job Corps Center, and Seymour Campground recreation areas. The department is also involved with mutual aid agreements with the State of Montana; Montana Highway Patrol; and the Montana Southwest Drug Task Force.

The Detention Division has six full-time and two part-time detention officers. This facility houses prisoners for Anaconda - Deer Lodge County and other agencies. The jail and law enforcement facility was completed in 2003. It includes law enforcement offices, emergency dispatch offices and detention facilities. The 911 Dispatch Division has a full-time supervisor, seven full-time dispatchers and one part-time dispatcher. The 911 Dispatch Division provides essential emergency and non-emergency dispatch and communications services to City-County law enforcement, fire departments and EMS services.

Since the year 2000, the number of crimes and crime rate peaked in 2001 for index crimes and has trended downward since that year. Larceny/theft comprised the vast majority of crime while the second most common crime was assault. Compared to surrounding counties, Jefferson and Granite Counties had lower crime rates while Butte-Silverbow County had the highest crime rate. Juvenile crimes peaked in the year 2002 and have trended downward since then. The most common offense among juveniles is crimes against property.

*Table 4 : Crime Statistics for Anaconda County*

Year	Index Crime		Juvenile Crime
	Number	Rate	Number
<b>2000</b>	346	3483	126
<b>2001</b>	475	5032	132
<b>2002</b>	207	2181	162
<b>2003</b>	180	1967	126
<b>2004</b>	268	2929	89
<b>2005</b>	186	2056	83
<b>2006</b>	139	1515	97
<b>2007</b>	131	1473	115
<b>2008</b>	167	1897	106

Source: Montana Board of Crime Control

- Notes:
1. Index Crimes = Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft
  2. Crime Rate = The rate of the seven index crimes per 100,000 people
  3. Juvenile Crimes = Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, Drug Offenses, Drug Paraphernalia Offenses, Offenses Against Public Administration, Offenses Against Public Order, Other Offenses, Status Offenses

## 6. Libraries

401 Main Street  
(406) 563-6932

The Hearst Free Library in Anaconda opened in 1898. The library was built as a gift to the people of Anaconda from Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, and the Hearst family had an interest in the copper mining company that had facilities in Anaconda. The library is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

*Figure 2: Hearst Free Library*



The County Commission appoints a Library Board to supervise operations of the library. Library staff includes a director, two full-time librarians, seven part-time assistants, and volunteers. A county mill levy is the primary revenue source for the library.

Compared to libraries with similar size service areas, the library has higher than average per capita expenditures and a somewhat lower collection size per capita.

*Table 5 : Hearst Free Library – Selected Statistics*

	Hearst Free Library	Average for Libraries of Comparable Size
<b>Service Area Population</b>	5,000 – 9,999	--
<b>Collection Size (Books, Audio, Video)</b>	37,476	--
<b>Users per Week</b>	1,460	--
<b>Per Capita Collection</b>	3.98	4.30
<b>Per Capita Expenditures</b>	\$23.64	\$18.54
<b>Per Capita Circulation</b>	3.97	5.69

Source: Montana State Library, "Statistics Report – 2008", [www.msl.mt.gov](http://www.msl.mt.gov)



## 7. Cultural Facilities

Cultural facilities within Anaconda - Deer Lodge County include the following:

- *Copper Village Museum and Arts Center & Marcus Daly Historical Society– 401 E. Commercial, Anaconda*

The Copper Village Museum and Arts Center, a free museum, is located in the Anaconda City Hall Cultural Center. This historic structure was saved from demolition, renovated, and is currently on the National Register of Historic Places. The Museum and Arts Center features visual arts exhibitions of traditional and heritage arts, world arts, and Montana contemporary artists.

Also located in the City Hall Cultural Center is the Marcus Daly Historical Society Museum and Archives and a retail gift shop. The Museum and Historical Society are open year round.

Figure 3 : Copper Village Museum



- *Washoe Theatre – 305 Main St., Anaconda*

The Washoe Theatre is a movie palace that was built in 1936 with Art Deco furnishings, murals, and ornamentation in silver, copper and gold leaf. The Washoe Theater was listed on the National Register of Historic Sites in 1982 and the Smithsonian Institute rates the Washoe as a national treasure due to the lavish interior. The facility still operates as a commercial movie theater.

- *Anaconda Railroad and Mining Museum – 300 W. Commercial, Anaconda*

The Anaconda Railroad and Mining Museum features regional history and is located in a roundhouse that was constructed in 1893. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites and is one of ten working roundhouses remaining in the United States. The museum contains a gift shop, mining and smelting exhibits and model railroads. In prior summer seasons, the Copper King Express excursion train departed from the museum and provided scenic rides from Anaconda to Butte. That service was recently discontinued.

## 8. Education

### A. Public School Enrollment Trends

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County (ADLC) is served by School District #10. The District has two elementary schools, one middle school, and one senior high school. The number of students in the last few years was under 1,300 although the district has a maximum capacity (district wide) of 2,763. There are 98 certified personnel employed in the school district. As measured by the Office of Public Instruction, ADLC schools have a teacher/student ratio of 14 students to every one teacher. This measurement includes all professional staff such as special ed staff and librarians. The classroom teacher to student ratio is closer to a one teacher to every 20 students. According to the Montana Office of Public Instruction, the completion rate for the high school was 88.1% and slightly exceeds the state average of 85.3%.

As indicated in the following table, overall enrollment in the district has experienced steady decline. In the 1980's, school enrolment was over 2000 students. It has declined every year and is projected to be around 1130 students for the 2009-2010 school year. Since the 2000-2001 school year, enrollment has declined by 17%. Due to the decline in enrollments, the school district has closed both Washington Elementary School and Dwyer Intermediate School. Washington School has since been demolished and the site is now a parking lot.

*Table 6: Public School Enrollment Trends*

	<b>00-01</b>	<b>01-02</b>	<b>02-03</b>	<b>03-04</b>	<b>04-05</b>	<b>05-06</b>	<b>06-07</b>
<b>Lincoln Elementary</b>	284	313	276	261	245	326	279
<b>W.K. Dwyer Elem.</b>	104	205	209	210	207	282	237
<b>Dwyer Intermediate</b>	227	218	188	174	157	--	--
<b>Washington</b>	160	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Fred Moodry M.S.</b>	260	260	254	251	237	201	291
<b>High School</b>	481	484	476	504	479	479	457
<b>Total</b>	<b>1516</b>	<b>1480</b>	<b>1403</b>	<b>1400</b>	<b>1325</b>	<b>1288</b>	<b>1264</b>

*Source: Montana Public School Enrollment Data, Office of Public Instruction*

Declining enrollments is a statewide trend due primarily to smaller families and the baby boom generation's children reaching graduation. The trend is more pronounced in Anaconda-Deer Lodge County due to the declining population. The children of baby boomers temporarily kept high school enrollments steady, but as this group reaches adulthood, the following 'baby bust' generation will be significantly smaller. School districts that are experiencing increases in other parts of the state are due to new development and overall population growth from in-migration.

There are no private schools in the County. In the 2007/2008 school year, there were 13 students that were home schooled compared to seven students in 2004/2005.

## B. Public School Facilities

School District 10 currently operates four schools. In 2009, the District received a Quick Start Energy Grant to upgrade school buildings to more energy efficient lighting. Additionally, in 2009 the District will be adding a cafeteria to the Middle School. The Dwyer Intermediate School is currently vacant but the District is negotiating a lease with a non-profit to use the space. The school district also owns the Daly Gymnasium Building. Due to structural problems, the building is vacant and estimated costs to bring the facility up to code exceed \$1 million. Demolition of the building is under consideration.

The District will be completing a facility plan in 2010 with recommendations on upgrades to existing schools and disposition of surplus property.

1. Lincoln Elementary  
Grades 3-5  
506 Chestnut St.  
(406)563-6141
2. Dwyer School  
Grades K-2  
1510 W. Park  
(406)563-5562
3. Fred Moodry Middle School  
Grades 6-8  
219 E. Third St.  
(406)563-5269
4. Anaconda Senior High  
Grades 9-12  
515 Main St.  
(406) 563-5269

## 2. Anaconda Job Corps

The Anaconda Job Corps campus is located west of town off of Highway 1. The Job Corps program is authorized by Title I-C of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The Anaconda Job Corps, a no-cost education and vocational training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, provides alternative educational and vocational training opportunities for youth aged 16-24. Students at the Anaconda Job Corps learn trade skills in a variety of areas including: welding, business/clerical, carpentry, construction equipment mechanics, masonry, or culinary arts. Job Corps projects such as picnic pavilions and park concession and restroom facilities, can be found throughout the Headwaters region. According to the Job Corp the current student population for the 2010 school year was around 200.

( Source: [www.jobcorps.dol.gov](http://www.jobcorps.dol.gov) )

## 9. Health Care

### A. Community Hospital of Anaconda

401 W. Pennsylvania St.  
406-563-8500  
<http://www.communityhospitalofanaconda.org>

Community Hospital of Anaconda (CHA) is a 40-bed facility with a 24-hour emergency services physician. CHA provides general medical and surgical care for inpatient, outpatient, and emergency room patients, and participates in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Services include:

- 24-hour Emergency Room/Convenient Care Department
- Accredited Radiology Department (including MRI, CAT scan, Ultrasound and Mammography)
- Physical and Occupational Therapy
- Obstetrics
- Pediatrics: Anaconda Pediatrics and Pintler Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine: Anaconda Internal Medicine
- Surgery
- Cardio Pulmonary Services
- Medical Laboratory
- Hospice Services
- Home Health Services
- Medical Clinics
- Diabetes Education

In 2007 there were 1,045 hospital admissions and 6,636 Emergency Room/Convenient Care visits. The hospital has 194 full-time employees. In addition to the hospital facility, CHA operates the other following facilities including:

- Pintler Family Medicine - 305 West Pennsylvania - (406) 563-8686
- Anaconda Internal Medicine - 1102 East Commercial - (406) 563-8600
- Anaconda Pediatrics - 200 Main Suite 4 - (406) 563-7337
- Pintler Home Options - 305 W. Pennsylvania

In addition, CHA has plans to provide offices for a visiting mental health professional in late 2009 or early 2010.

### B. Community Nursing Home of Anaconda

615 Main Street  
(406) 563-8417

Community Nursing Home of Anaconda is a 62-bed facility licensed by Medicare, Medicaid and the Veteran's Administration. Eleven beds are located in the Special Care Unit designed especially for those residents with more advanced dementia such as Alzheimer's disease. Respite care is also available.



### C. Health Statistics

In Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, as in Montana, the leading causes of death are heart disease and cancer. Compared to Montana as a whole, the county experiences higher than average rates of infant mortality, death following traumatic injury, and suicides.

Table 7 : Health Status Indicators for ADLC

Health Status Indicators	ADLC		Montana	
	Teen	All Women	Teen	All Women
Fertility Rates (teen births per 1000 teen females; all births per 1000 females of child bearing age)	37.4(n=62)	51.3(n=414)	35.6(n=6,213)	60.7(n=55,836)
Pre-natal Care (percent beginning care in the first trimester; percent receiving adequate. i.e. early and continuous parental care) <sup>6</sup>	81.2%	74.9%	83.0%	73.4%
Percent low Birthweight (below 5lbs. 8 oz.)	9.7%		6.9	
Infant Mortality (deaths per 1000 live births)	9.7		6.2	
Cancer Incidence Rate ( diagnosis per 100,000 population)	486.6(95% C.I.±114.3)		478.7 (95% C.I.±12.3)	
Leading Causes of Death	1. Heart Disease 2. Cancer 3. CLRO		1. Heart Disease 2. Cancer 3. Cerebrovascular Disease	
Heart Disease Death Rate (per 100,000 population)	26.3 (n=12)		24.5(n=1118)	
Age-adjusted Heart Disease Death Rate	154.8		151.3	
Suicide Rate (per 100,000 population)	24.1 (n=11)		19.0 (n=866)	
Traumatic Injury Death Rate (per 100,000 population)	92.1(n=42)		52.6(n=2,400)	
Percent Motor Vehicle Crashes Involving Alcohol	11.0%		9.7%	
Percent of the Medicaid Population Receiving Mental Health Services (FY2005)	42.0%		27.8%	
Percent of 2-yr. Olds Seen by a Health Care Provider that are Fully Immunized	98.0% (n=82)		93% (n=3,211)	
STD Incidence Rate (reported cases per 100,000)	76.7(n=35)		217.8(n=9941)	

Source: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, 2006

A major health concern is the obesity epidemic and its relation to chronic disease. The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) released the report, "Montana Nutrition and Physical Activity State Plan to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases". The report notes that over the past 30 years there has been a trend of adults and children consuming more calories and spending less time engaged in physical activity. This results in a higher portion of the population being overweight or obese. Being overweight and obese substantially raises the risk of illness from high blood pressure, high cholesterol, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, gallbladder disease, arthritis, sleep disturbances, breathing problems, and certain types of cancers. The U.S. Center for Disease Control has notes that the predominant public health concern will be these types of chronic disease.

"Here at the start of the 21st century our understanding of which factors promote health and which damage health has grown considerably. The diseases of the 21st century will be "chronic" diseases, those that steal vitality and productivity, and consume time and money. These diseases-heart disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and depression- are diseases that can be moderated by how we design and build our human environment."

Source: "Creating A Healthy Environment: The Impact of the Built Environment on Public Health", U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control

The DPHHS report also emphasizes the correlation of physical activity to maintaining a healthy weight. Physically active people are less likely to die of coronary heart disease - and they are less likely to develop many chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, and certain cancers. In addition, physical activity reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression, promotes healthy bones and joints and reduces arthritis pain. Among the report's recommendations, one suggestion is to building walkable communities as described below:

"Encouraging developments with a more traditional neighborhood design, such as streets connected in a more grid-like style with sidewalks/bike lanes and trees and stores make walking and biking an easier, safer, more convenient and more enjoyable choice."

Source: Montana DPHHS, "Montana Nutrition and Physical Activity State Plan to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases"

Another concern in the County is the provision of mental health services. As indicated in the previous table, the number of Medicaid recipients receiving mental health services in the County exceeds the state average. The rate of suicides and the percent of alcohol related motor vehicle crashes are also high. While it is mental health providers who are relied on to provide treatment for these conditions, Table 8 indicates that the county has a shortage of mental health professionals.

Table 8 : Health Resource Assessment

Health Resource Assessment	ADLC				Montana			
Local Hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals (CAH), and Total number of beds	Local Hospitals		CAH	# beds	Local Hospitals		CAH	# beds
	1 adult psychiatric		1	199	16 local; 2 psychiatric; 1 VA		43	2,856
Rural Health Clinics, Community Health Care Centers, and IHS- Tribal Health Facilities (number)	RHC	CHC	IHS- Tribal		RHC	CHC	IHS- Tribal	
	0	0	0		41	23	12	
Availability of Basic and Enhanced 9-1-1 Services	Basic				Basic-All Counties; Enhanced-32 Counties; Wireless compliance-7 Counties			
Availability of Emergency Medical Services  Basic Life Support Services Advanced Life Support Services	#	ADLC Locations						
	3	Anaconda						
	0	N/A						
Nursing Homes (number of facilities and beds)	1 (62)				96 (7,543)			
Aging Service: number of Assisted Living Facilities (ALF), Adult Foster Care (AFC), and Adult Day Care (ADC) Licenses	ALF (# beds)		AFC	ADC	ALF		AFC	ADC
	1 (12)		0	0	164(4,327)		106	59
Home Care Services: number of Home Health Agency (HHA) and Hospice Licenses	HHA		Hospice		HHA		Hospice	
	1		1		43		33	
Primary Care Provider Resources: number of doctors (MDs and DOs), Nurse Midwives (NMW), Nurse Practitioners (NP), and Physicians Assistants (PA-C)	MD/DO	NMW	NP	PA-C	MD/DO	NMW	NP	PA-C
	11	0	7	2	929	33	346	312
Health Care Provider Shortage Stays:	Federal HPSA: Low Income Population							
Health Professional Shortage Areas [HPSA]	Mental Health HPSA: Yes							
	Dental HPSA: None							
Medically Underserved Areas or Populations [MUA?MUP]	MUA/MUP: None							

Source: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, 2006

## 10. Environmental Health

Tri-County Environmental Health serves Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, Granite County and Powell County from their offices located in the ADLC courthouse. The agency offers the following services:

- Food Program - The Environmental Health Department is contracted with the State Department of Public Health to conduct inspections, licensing, and plan review on all food service establishments.
- Public Accommodations Program - Tri-County Environmental Health is contracted by Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to license and inspect all public accommodations including hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, and tourist homes.
- Septic System Program - All lots that have been subdivided since 1973 have either an approved site plan for sewer and water or have a restriction preventing development with any building requiring sewer or water. Montana Law requires "That the developer and/or owner of record shall provide each purchaser of property with a copy of the Certificate of Survey, approved location of water supply and sewage treatment system as shown on the approved layout, and a copy of the Certificate of Subdivision Approval." Septic permits are required for any revision, replacement of an existing system and any installation of a new system.
- Community Complaints Program - The Environmental Health Department enforces the Anaconda/Deer Lodge County Solid Waste and Decay Ordinance in cooperation with other county departments. A Community Decay complaint is one that is a public nuisance. According to state law, a public nuisance is "one which affects, at the same time, an entire community or neighborhood or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal." Any other nuisance is considered a private nuisance.
- Junk Vehicle Program - A Junk Vehicle is defined as "a discarded, ruined, wrecked or dismantled motor vehicle, which is not lawfully and validly licensed **and** remains inoperative or incapable of being driven". A vehicle must meet all three parts of the definition to be classified as a junk vehicle. Vehicle hauling through this program is free of charge.
- Other Public Health Inspections – Montana Department of Public Health contracts with the Department of Environmental Health to inspect, license, and do plan reviews on day care centers that provide care for 12 or more children, community group homes, trailer courts, detention facilities, and public swimming pools and spas, including those owned and operated by hotels or motels.

## 11. Social Services

The County has a number of public and non-profit agencies providing a variety of social services.

- ADLC Public Health Department – The mission of the Anaconda Deer-Lodge County Health Department is to assure conditions in which people can be healthy and to provide leadership in the prevention of disease and injury. Services include immunizations, Women-Infant Children (WIC) nutrition, family planning, addiction services.
- Head Start - Anaconda -Deer Lodge County Head Start serves the community of Anaconda and Deer Lodge County. They have a funded enrollment of 90 and operate part day/part year and full day/full year center based classes.
- A.W.A.R.E (<http://www.aware-inc.org/>) - AWARE Inc., a private, non-profit corporation, provides quality community-based services to persons with challenging mental, emotional, and in some cases, physical needs who would otherwise be served in a more restrictive setting. Services include mental health services, disability services, early head start and transportation services.
- Human Resource Development Council, Dist. XII (<http://www.hrc12.org/>) – The District 12 HRDC office is located in Butte and serves the six county area of Southwestern Montana that includes Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Granite, Powell, Madison and Silver Bow counties. Services include Section 8 Housing Assistance, youth employment, job training, homeless services, weatherization, neighborhood redevelopment, senior home retrofits and meals/nutrition.
- Area V Agency on Aging – Located in Butte, the agency serves six counties including ADLC. Works with the Metcalf Memorial Senior Citizen's Center to provide congregate meals, transportation, and commodity food boxes for low income senior centers. The agency operates a health care assistance center to help with Medicare claims and has senior ombudsmen to advocate for persons in nursing homes. The Metcalf Center also provides some recreation and health services.
- Anaconda PCA Family Resource Center - 24-Hour Crisis Line: (406) 563-7972  
Service Area: Deer Lodge, Powell, Granite Counties
- Others: Anaconda Indian Alliance, Big Brothers and Sisters of Anaconda, Career Futures, Alcoholism Services of Anaconda-Deer Lodge, Anaconda Victim Witness Program

## 12. Planning Services

While Anaconda-Deer Lodge County provides a variety of quality services, only the local planning services provided by the County's Planning Department combines development review, code enforcement/administration, building permit and inspection services, economic development, and Superfund. In addition, the Planning Department has spearheaded this Growth Policy update, and provides a tremendous amount of support to the County in terms on project administration and oversight, grant writing and grants administration. Planning Department personnel staff the Airport Board and provide administrative support to the County solid waste management function. The Planning Department also provides a conduit for local citizens to communicate with their local government. Many County citizens that may have questions, complaints, comments, or just want basic information, do not know which person or department to speak with. The Planning Department often is the first point of contact for these people. The Planning Department is located in the lower level of the Courthouse across the hall from the Executive office.



## PART 4: GOALS, POLICIES AND ACTIONS

In Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, with an aging population whose median age is higher than the state average, and a poverty rate and per capita income below state averages as well, local services become all the more important. As this element bears out, a great many services are provided in the County, many of them specifically target the needs of the elderly and those with below average incomes.

**GOAL:** To provide the governmental and non-governmental services to enhance the quality of life for all Anaconda-Deer Lodge County citizens, and to do so in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

### POLICIES:

1. ADLC shall periodically and systematically (probably at budget time) review each county service for need, target client, effectiveness, and efficiency in terms of cost.
2. As new service needs arise, the County should look to partner with other service providers first.
3. In its development reviews, long range planning projects and programs, and in capital improvements, ADLC shall strive to make Anaconda and the County as a whole more walkable and bikeable in the interests of public health and in creating more healthy and livable communities.
4. Incorporate energy-efficient design and technologies into public buildings and facilities, especially local sources of energy such as wind, solar, and geothermal.
5. Consider the fiscal impacts and benefits of new development.

### ACTIONS:

1. Revise the Development Permit System (DPS) for consistency with the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and require fire-wise prevention practices in all development districts in which there is a potential for residential development with the WUI.
2. Initiate an awareness campaign to encourage homeowners in the WUI to conduct a wildland fuel assessment and implement fire-wise practices to protect their homes.
3. Update E-911 attribute data for hazards such as propane tanks, fuel storage facilities, and other items that can endanger emergency responders.
4. Evaluate County procurement policies to give preference to recycled and recyclable goods and clean, energy-efficient vehicles for the County's fleet.
5. Research potential grants and partnerships for demonstration projects for alternative energy sources and for growing garden and ornamental plants in ADLC's unique soils and climate.
6. The County will seek to initiate partnerships with the local school district in order to:
  - Develop new facilities such as a community center or gymnasium
  - Expand recreational opportunities
  - Develop leadership capabilities through County officials speaking to high school classes, and students taking part in County projects.